

THE
**FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS**

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Edison National Historic Site

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: EDIS

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

By 2016, Edison National Historic Site, the laboratory and home of celebrated inventor Thomas Alva Edison, will be a vital and compelling venue which will offer innovative programs and expanded access to collections and cultural resources. Edison purchased the 29-room Queen-Anne style mansion called Glenmont in 1886. A year later, he opened up the newly built laboratory complex half a mile down the road. For over forty years, the laboratory had enormous impact on the lives of millions of people worldwide. Out of the West Orange laboratories came the motion picture camera, vastly improved phonographs, silent and sound movies, and the nickel-iron alkaline storage battery, among others. These inventions made a lasting impact on the modern world we live in today.

We aim to reach the widest audience possible and to ensure that people of all abilities benefit from the same experience at our site through innovative, high tech educational and interpretive programs, and an expanded internet presence for museum collections. We will be environmentally responsible in our building plans and recycling programs and convey these best practices to our visitors. We seek to sustain our historic structures and museum collections for future generations through preservation and protection of these resources. We will demonstrate professional excellence by promoting a safe and healthy work culture and visitor atmosphere. By working with partners, volunteers, and the community towards this shared centennial vision, we will build the next century of citizen stewards for Edison NHS.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Theresa Jung, Acting Superintendent

Site: EDIS

STEWARDSHIP

☒ Provide inspiring, safe, and accessible places for people to enjoy - the standard to which all other park systems aspire.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

All facilities and programs are accessible to all visitors.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: EDIS

STEWARDSHIP

☒ Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

☒ Improve high-priority assets to acceptable condition, as measured by the Facility Condition Index.

Historic Structures are stabilized and repaired to good condition.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

☒ Complete all cultural resource inventories for designated priority resources.

Collections are protected with adequate security, fire protection and environmental controls, and are completely inventoried, cataloged, stabilized and conserved.

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ENVIRONMENT

☒ Reduce environmental impacts of park operations.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Energy efficient work practices are incorporated into everyday operations.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: EDIS

ENVIRONMENT

☒ Engage partners, communities, and visitors in shared environmental stewardship.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Thomas Alva Edison Museum Storage and Resource Center is completed using LEED standards.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

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RECREATION

☒ Establish "volun-tourism" excursions to national parks for volunteers to help achieve natural and cultural resource protection goals.

☒ Increase annual volunteer hours by 100 percent, from 5.2 million hours to 10.4 million hours.

Volunteer program is expanded and utilized in all park operations.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: EDIS

RECREATION

☒ Expand partnerships with schools and boys and girls associations to show how national park experiences can improve children's lives.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Partnerships are established with area schools and community groups to provide national park experiences for local children.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: EDIS

EDUCATION

☒ Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.

☒ Increase the number of web hits through the introduction of advanced, interactive features that attract young people to national parks.

Technology is embraced in park interpretive and educational programming.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: EDIS

EDUCATION

☒ Promote life-long learning to connect generations through park experiences.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Educational programming will provide lifelong learning opportunities - from programs for school children to adult and corporate business programming.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: EDIS

PROFESSIONALISM

☒ Promote a safety and health culture for all employees and visitors.

☒ Reduce the number of employee lost-time incidents and serious visitor injuries by 20 percent.

An active safety and health culture will result in a reduction in accidents and injuries.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: EDIS

PROFESSIONALISM

☒ Model what it means to work in partnership.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Park partners will share in the NPS vision for the site. Partnership activities will benefit the mutual goals.

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